

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace Paragraph [000159] with the following:

[000159] MBP was isolated from eosinophils of patients with hypereosinophilic syndrome, using the same technique as previously described for the isolation of EDN and ECP, except that the fraction containing MBP was the one isolated, instead of EDN or ECP [Slifman, N.R. et al.; J. Immunol. 137:2913-2917 (1986)]. The MBP was pure as analyzed by the presence of a single band after SDS-PAGE and staining with Coomassie Brilliant Blue R250.